

natural treasures is managed in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way. With the passage of S. 22, and in particular, with the extension of Congress's authorization of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, I believe that we have taken an important step toward achieving that goal.

The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, QSHC, was established in 1994 as the fifth National Heritage Corridor. National Heritage Areas are designated by Congress to preserve distinctive landscapes of historic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources. The QSHC is commonly known as "The Last Green Valley," a rare and beautiful rural landscape in the populous Northeast. In fact, the Valley stands out in night images from space for its absence of lights. It contains aboriginal and colonial archaeological sites, mills and mill villages that preserve the history of the early industrial revolution, and traditional farming communities. The QSHC nonprofit management entity has restored architecturally and historically important buildings, developed conservation and open space plans, and fostered cooperation among businesses in the region that rely on the natural resources and beauty of the land. It has consistently leveraged an average of \$19 for every \$1 of appropriated Federal money.

The QSHC has developed a plan to become a self-sustaining entity by 2015, as laid out in "The Trail to 2015: A Sustainability Plan for the Last Green Valley." The plan calls for replacing Federal funds with fees for services, private and corporate support, and income from a permanent fund. In the interim, Federal funds are necessary for capacity-building, awareness programs, and ongoing education of land-use decision-makers.

The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor has created a collaboration of 35 municipalities dedicated to preserving a unique slice of our American heritage. With the extension of its authorization, this preserve will be able to exist in perpetuity. Again, I would like to thank my Senate colleagues for their support of the QSHC and the numerous other sites of great natural and cultural significance that will be protected as a result of the passage of this important legislation.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to briefly explain my vote against final passage of S. 22, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. I would like to be clear that I do not oppose every aspect of this bill, nor do I oppose the notion that our Nation's most unique and precious natural features should be protected for the use and enjoyment of future generations. As with many large omnibus

bills, there are a number of provisions that enjoy strong support in the Senate. However, taken as a whole, this bill represents an enormous commitment of federal resources in perpetuity that we simply cannot afford at this time. For years, our existing national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands have been faced with a backlog of much-needed maintenance projects because we have not had the resources to do everything that needs to be done along with competing budget priorities. Now, in the midst of an economic downturn and on the eve of considering an historically large economic stimulus package, the strain on Federal budgets has rarely been greater. In light of this fact, it is intellectually dishonest to promise to the American people that the Federal Government will protect and maintain additional Federal lands when we know that we are not even able to fully keep our current commitments. For that reason, I felt it necessary to vote no on this bill at this time.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the revised rules of the Committee on Finance for the 111th Congress, adopted by the committee on January 15, 2009. I ask unanimous consent that the rules be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE I. RULES OF PROCEDURE

(Adopted January 15, 2009)

Rule 1. *Regular Meeting Days.*—The regular meeting day of the committee shall be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, except that if there be no business before the committee the regular meeting shall be omitted.

Rule 2. *Committee Meetings.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 3 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to special meetings called by a majority of the committee) and subsection (b) of this rule, committee meetings, for the conduct of business, for the purpose of holding hearings, or for any other purpose, shall be called by the chairman after consultation with the ranking minority member. Members will be notified of committee meetings at least 48 hours in advance, unless the chairman determines that an emergency situation requires a meeting on shorter notice. The notification will include a written agenda together with materials prepared by the staff relating to that agenda. After the agenda for a committee meeting is published and distributed, no nongermane items may be brought up during that meeting unless at least two-thirds of the members present agree to consider those items.

(b) In the absence of the chairman, meetings of the committee may be called by the ranking majority member of the committee who is present, provided authority to call meetings has been delegated to such member by the chairman.

Rule 3. *Presiding Officer.*—(a) The chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the committee except that in his absence the ranking majority member who is present at the meeting shall preside.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) any member of the committee may preside over the conduct of a hearing.

Rule 4. *Quorums.*—(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) one-third of the membership of the committee, including not less than one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a), one member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

Rule 5. *Reporting of Measures or Recommendations.*—No measure or recommendation shall be reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee is actually present and a majority of those present concur.

Rule 6. *Proxy Voting; Polling.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 7(a)(3) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitation on use of proxy voting to report a measure or matter), members who are unable to be present may have their vote recorded by proxy.

(b) At the discretion of the committee, members who are unable to be present and whose vote has not been cast by proxy may be polled for the purpose of recording their vote on any rollcall taken by the committee.

Rule 7. *Order of Motions.*—When several motions are before the committee dealing with related or overlapping matters, the chairman may specify the order in which the motions shall be voted upon.

Rule 8. *Bringing a Matter to a Vote.*—If the chairman determines that a motion or amendment has been adequately debated, he may call for a vote on such motion or amendment, and the vote shall then be taken, unless the committee votes to continue debate on such motion or amendment, as the case may be. The vote on a motion to continue debate on any motion or amendment shall be taken without debate.

Rule 9. *Public Announcement of Committee Votes.*—Pursuant to paragraph 7(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to public announcement of votes), the results of rollcall votes taken by the committee on any measure (or amendment thereto) or matter shall be announced publicly not later than the day on which such measure or matter is ordered reported from the committee.

Rule 10. *Subpoenas.*—Witnesses and memoranda, documents, and records may be subpoenaed by the chairman of the committee with the agreement of the ranking minority member or by a majority vote of the committee. Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and the production of memoranda, documents, and records shall be issued by the chairman, or by any other member of the committee designated by him.

Rule 11. *Nominations.*—In considering a nomination, the Committee may conduct an investigation or review of the nominee's experience, qualifications, and suitability, to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. To aid in such investigation or review, each nominee may be required to submit a sworn detailed statement including biographical, financial, policy, and other information which the Committee may request. The Committee may specify which items in such statement are to be received on a confidential basis. Witnesses called to testify on the nomination may be required to testify under oath.

Rule 12. *Open Committee Hearings.*—To the extent required by paragraph 5 of Rule XXVI